Jahanpanah Tohfa Kabool Karo (Recovery on needles).

1 message

Anirban Chakraborty <oligarchy.of.india@gmail.com> Mon, Sep 1, 2025 at 08:01
To: MANAGING DIRECTOR ECHS <[redacted]>, DY MANAGING DIRECTOR ECHS <[redacted]>, Dir Complaints &amp, Litigatio <[redacted]>, JT DIRECTOR (COMP & LITIGATION) ECHS <[redacted]>, DIRECTOR MEDICAL ECHS <[redacted]>, JT DIRECTOR (MEDICAL & CLAIMS) ECHS <[redacted]>, JT DIRECTOR (MEDICAL) ECHS <[redacted]>, Dir RC Kolkata ECHS <[redacted]>, Jt Dir (Med) Hospital Supply ECHS <[redacted]>, Echs Salt Lake <[redacted]>, Station Commander Kolkata <[redacted]>, BPA ECHS UTIITSL <[redacted]>, aao [redacted], Bengal Area Station Head Quarter ECHS Cell <[redacted]>, [redacted]
Cc: Shri N K Panda <[redacted]>, [redacted], Defence minister <[redacted]>

Respected Officials,
From the Ex-servicemen, their dependents, and my father, taking daily injections at homes, if you ever do recoveries of the cost of prescribed needle, syringe, spirit, and cotton, NA at the E.C.H.S. Polyclinics; then, on or before demand please issue referral papers to them for ADMISSION FOR DAILY INJECTIONS, for the reason as stated below, which shall be published after 7 days from date together with any correspondence received from your end in this regard.

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Background: I occasionally purchase insulin pen needles from market for my father, but I cannot remember finding a box having new label affixed hiding the old label, displaying different Batch No., new Manufacturing Date, new Expiry Date, and increased Maximum Retail Price. This happened once earlier, this happened in April 2025, and this happened in August 2025 again with Dispo Van Pen Needles provided in its original box by the E.C.H.S. Polyclinic Salt Lake
April 2025: Dispo Van Pen Needle new batch no. 417A and old batch no. 925D, photos and videos are enclosed.

August 2025: Ditto.

There is no doubt in its sterility, the manufacturer discards old seal of each of the expired Dispo Van Pen Needle, sterilises it thoroughly, applies new seal, and packs it in the same old paper box with the new label on top of the old label. The glaring difference in quality of sealing needles is, however, that BD Ultra Fine Pen Needles provide absolute proof of safety by sealing each needle under high atmospheric pressure, the good quality seal holds that air pressure, and even a blind patient is capable to feel the bulge when the seal is lightly pressed down with finger.
Proof: Puncture one BD Ultra Fine Pen Needle's seal with the needle of another pen needle, and there will be a permanent crater/dent once pressed lightly.
Contrastingly, there is nothing like that with Dispo Van Pen Needles, and the patient has to carefully see and feel the applied force while stripping seal from the needle, still there is no way to know for sure a microscopically cracked, cut, tear, or improperly glued seal.

After the Covid-19 pandemic, as on 1st May 2025 the price of BD Ultra Fine Pen Needles makes it untouchable – the wholesale price of 1 box X 10 plastic packets X 5 needles = 50 needles is Rs. 790/- to 850/-; comparatively, the wholesale price of Dispo Van Pen Needles is almost half – 1 box X 20 plastic packets X 5 needles = 100 needles is Rs. 650/- to 700/-, and very likely the price of 1 box X 100 loose Dispo Van Pen Needles is further less: ECHS's SOP 01/2017 Medicine Management 5th Sep 2017 Pg. No. 5 and 6
12. ... Least cost will be the prime criteria for medicine procurement without affecting the patients adversely.

(ae) Supply order should clearly mention that those slow moving/ non consumed medicines can be returned to the vendors minimum three months before expiry date for clean exchange.

Expired Dispo Van Pen Needles are returned to the manufacturer, despite being cheap! Not a single box having such double labels is found in the open market due to possibility of skepticism in minds of the patients and resultant damage to reputation of the manufacturer. At the E.C.H.S. Polyclinics, however, for patients it is difficult, but not impossible, to get loose Dispo Van Pen Needles with the original box. For the reason why at heavily discounted rates returned goods are available for "Government Hospital Supply Not For Sale":

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Compendium of CO ECHS Letters 1st April 2003 to 31st December 2022
Pg. No. 347. Similar at pg. no.354, 371, 375, 377, 378, 577
(b) The Board will check the Technical parameters as per Tender Enquiry and will consider the price bids of only the technically qualified vendors. The Board will arrive at L1 Vendor based on maximum overall amount of discount on MRP for all the drugs to be supplied with a minimum QR of 15%. Bids offering less than 15% overall Discount will be rejected. The tenderers will quote an overall discount figure irrespective of the quantity or number of individual drugs.

(c) The Board will consider parallel rate contract with L2 and L3 vendors and include their names in recommendation if those vendors agree to the L1 rates in writing

Pg No. 398

4(d) ... Even after signing this contract, TE can be floated which can be participated by CGHS empanelled chemist who has signe the contract so that the chemist offering max discount from MRP can be empanelled subsequently.

Pg.No. 416. Similar at pg. no. 485, 533, 538, 549, 553
(a) ... Minimum discount from MRP was 15% but the vendor with maximum discount was to be selected based on the laid down procedure.

The issues:
1) Dispo Van is a time-tested and reputed brand trusted by Indian doctors and nurses for products like needles, insulin syringes, other types of syringes, and the like. Insulin pens provide to the patients more comfort than insulin syringes – insulin pens requir comparatively small needles, cause less pain, and need no vials to draw insulin from. Even though the diabetic patients suffer fro NPDR eye condition or worse, the patients at least need vision to check condition of insulin before each injection. In medicine, however, comfort encompasses independence and privacy; it is taken for granted when the unsupervised, unsuspecting, and age patients having affliction of eyes or having disabilities due to military service are required to minutely check the seal while strippi the Dispo Van Pen Needles, which they cannot do alone and definitely without the help of their family members. Sometimes Disp Van Pen Needle do have misaligned seals,
5 out of 162 Dispo Van Pen Needles were found having entrance of needles a little exposed, images enclosed.

2) The issue with the E.C.H.S. is that Dispo Van Pen Needles are not always given to the patients in the original sealed plastic packets, which provide additional safety and peace of mind until opened at the patients' homes, but given loose taken out of pap boxes with dirty hands and carried by the patients to their homes in the most unhygienic ways, which can possibly result into contamination of insulin if the rubber seal of the insulin pen cartridge is not sterilised with spirit and cotton on each use.

3) The issue with the E.C.H.S. is that insulin pen needles are not always provided to the patients, sometimes insulin pen needles are not provided to the patients at a stretch of 6 months, see the enclosed screenshots of the offial Telegram group of the E.C.H.S. Polyclinic Salt Lake.

4) Earlier when insulin pen needles were unavailable at the E.C.H.S. Polyclinics, patients used to purchase the same from open market and claim reimbursement. Now, the Government of India is sending recovery notices to the patients and asking them to return the amounts reimbursed for the insulin pen needles purchased on or after 4th October 2022,
my father recently received one recovery notice (initiated by someone at CDA and finally authorised by Joint Director HS Regiona Centre Kolkata Lt Col Kaushik Roy Majumder) asking to return the amount reimbursed for the insulin pen needles purchased in December 2021, copy enclosed.
Reason for recovery is
Advisory on payable/non-payable items for settlement of claims
(4th Oct 2022) Appx 'F'
Items which form part of hospital services where separate consumables are not payable
4. Band Aids, bandages, sterile injections, needles, syringes => Not payable – part of dressing charges.
On demand the E.C.H.S. could not provide government order or policy letter effective in December 2021; for the reason why, later the E.C.H.S. has repealed the recovery notice sent to my father.
Vide emails dated 25th August 2025, copies enclosed.
Who knows how are other aged, helpless, and ignorant patients dealing with the recovery notices sent to them.

5) No patient ever does daily travelling to hospital for getting insulin injection, as at home the patient administers insulin on its own. Now, the Government of India suddenly sees taking insulin injection as a professional service provided by nurses at hospita now, the Government of India suddenly sees the cost of taking insulin injection at home as dressing charges of hospitals, which includes cost of spirit, cotton, needle, and syringe, which are not reimbursable since 4th Oct 2022. No Military Hospitals and civil hospitals provide such service to the patients taking insulin on their own and at the comfort of their homes daily; but, "Modi hai t mumkin hai".
Now, the E.C.H.S.'s patients will demand referral papers (Admission for daily insulin injection), march into empanelled hospitals a Military Hospitals, and permanently occupy beds to get daily insulin injections from nurses.

The Indian Military has committed the Infamous Deepak Kumar Case and mistakenly authorised such recoveries. What the Government provides to the Indian Military are tax free wine shops at every military establishment and even inside premises of th Command Hospital Eastern Command - once I have seen a soldier, ahead of me in queue at a CSD Canteen, carrying in its baske Johnson's Baby Care Kit and large bottles of wine; on 2nd March 2024, I have seen at a military headquarters so many vital documents, opposite to sofa a small almirah containing some cup-plates, some glasses, and one dark bottle of wine, empty or fu do not know, but what I know is no other almirah other than that small almirah has a label having message: in case of fire rescue that almirah. (In this regard, I am supposed to neither collect, nor publish evidence because of security concern; photography prohibited.)

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Empanelled hospitals refuse admission to the E.C.H.S. patients, and the patients die because of mountains of unpaid hospital bi and the age-old, humiliating, and unsustainable rates at which the empanelled hospitals are reimbursed (Bapuji Cake Health Scheme). What the Government does are forcibly close E.C.H.S. Polyclinics for religious ceremonies, divert crores of Rupees eve year to Durga Puja organisers in Calcutta, and provides to the people of India new temples to do the last journey chanting "Jai Ma Durga", "Jai Maa Kali", "Jai Shri Ram", and "Ram naam satya hai".

I did a public interest RTI Investigation into the issue that the E.C.H.S. doctors have the habit of not prescribing needles and syringes to the patients (documents shall be published later), causing needles and syringes being issued to the patients at the mercy of dispensary staff and making the patients unable to claim reimbursement if needles and syringes are unavailable at the Polyclinics. The Government of India by fraudulent and shocking means evaded replying and forced me to approach the Central Information Commission so that it can destroy the documents sought as per its documents retention policy while I wait for the 2 Appeal hearing. Similarly, the West Bengal School Service Commission destroyed the original answer sheets of candidates to

evade detection in job for sale scam. Hence suppression, oppression, and destruction of machinery that addresses people's concern is part and parcel of the "Achchhey Din".

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Not all supporting documents are enclosed herewith due to restriction on the size of email attachment; it shall be, however, published at the URL:

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Thanks.

With regards,
Anirban Chakraborty
S/o Nk Gopal Chakraborty (Retd.)

ECHS Card No.
Parent Polyclinic: Salt Lake
Regional Centre: Kolkata, West Bengal

2 No. Motilal Colony, P.O. Rajbari Colony, Calcutta 700081
Ph.: (father's) / (mine)

E Apr 2025 ECHS Dispo Van Pen Needles double label.pdf
1.3 MB

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